

From: Derek Marks <dmarks@tulaliptribes-nsn.gov>
Sent: Thursday, June 13, 2013 11:40 AM
To: SEPADesk2 (DFW)
Cc: Mason Morisset; Kurt Nelson
Subject: RE: DNS 13-043 Kennedy Grass Carp Plant Private Ponds, King County

Mr. Zeigler,

After careful review of this proposal, The Tulalip Tribes would like to object the planting of grass carp (a non-native species) for this specific property on the grounds that the proposal perpetuates and in essence permits an illegal fish passage barrier (screening to keep stocked fish in, and other native fish out) in an anthropomorphized stream channel that might otherwise provide highly valuable habitat for stocks of anadromous salmonids (e.g., coho salmon, steelhead, sea-run and resident cutthroat trout). In addition, we feel that the SEPA Determination of Non-Significance (DNS) may be in error.

We recognize that not all grass carp planting proposals are the same and some may be more “innocuous” than others to their unique geographic location on the landscape. However, in the situation of the Kennedy Grass Carp Planting proposal, we found it necessary to review information available to us (maps, LiDAR, streams, fish distribution data, etc...) in the vicinity of the subject property. We found that there is ample evidence of an historic stream channel (tributary to Patterson Creek) that is presumably the water source for the ponds on the Kennedy Property. While the stream on the Kennedy property is largely an unmapped feature, there are remote sensing indications with LiDAR and high-resolution aerial imagery that it exists...and discussion with WDFW staff biologist Justin Spirelli confirmed its presence. Small streams like these are critically important for spawning, rearing, and refuge habitat for our native salmon stocks. Patterson Creek, a mere 1,300 feet downstream of the project proposal is documented to contain chum, Chinook, and coho salmon. In addition, we would expect resident and potentially anadromous forms of cutthroat and steelhead trout to reside there.

It is due to the above concerns that we feel the Department should not authorize and therefore perpetuate the illegal installation of a fish passage barrier for this project.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide comment.

Derek Marks
Tulalip Tribes- *Timber Fish and Wildlife Program Manager*
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From: SEPADesk2 (DFW) [<mailto:SEPADesk2@dfw.wa.gov>]
Sent: Monday, June 10, 2013 12:29 PM
To: SEPADesk2 (DFW)
Subject: DNS 13-043 Kennedy Grass Carp Plant Private Ponds, King County

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife has prepared the attached DNS in accordance with the State Environmental Policy Act regulation. This DNS is being circulated for review by all agencies with jurisdiction.

We appreciate your review of the proposal and return of comments no later than **June 25, 2013**.
This proposal will not be acted upon before that time.

Bob Zeigler

SEPA Responsible Official

360/ 902-2578

Habitat Program

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